

45

RECEIVED  
FEB 21 2001  
JJC 2600 MAILROOM

Group Art Unit: 2671

**Examiner: Unassigned**

)

),  
)  
)  
)

**STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)**

1.97(b), Applicants bring to the attention of  
attached PTO 1449. This Information  
the mailing date of a first Office Action on the  
n.

attached.

for the non-English language document, a  
I Search Report for International Application  
nt application is a national stage filing under  
sed is an English abstract of Japanese

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the listed documents and indicate that they were considered by making appropriate notations on the attached form.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that each or all of the listed documents are material or constitute "prior art." If the Examiner applies any of the documents as prior art against any claim in the application and Applicants determine that the cited documents do not constitute "prior art" under United States law, Applicants reserve the right to present to the office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such documents.

Applicants further reserve the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should one or more of the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

If there is any fee due in connection with the filing of this Statement, please charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,  
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: February 20, 2001

By: 

Richard V. Burgujian  
Reg. No. 31,744

LAW OFFICES

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON,  
FARABOW, GARRETT,  
& DUNNER, L.L.P.  
1300 I STREET, N. W.  
WASHINGTON, DC 20005  
202-408-4000